

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 01585 212209Z

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OIC-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-11 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 ACDA-12

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P 212204Z APR 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0879

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 01585

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNGA, SZ

SUBJECT: LIMITATION OF RIGHT OF PARTICIPATION IN
THE GENERAL DEBATE IN THE UNGA TO REPRESENTATIVES
OF MEMBER STATES

1. SUMMARY: AMB. LEONARD HAD USEFUL DISCUSSION WITH
GA PRESIDENT MOJSOV ON PARTICIPATION IN GENERAL DEBATE.
MOJSOV STATED HIS STRONG FIRST PREFERENCE IS TO
UPHOLD THE 1976 AMERASINGHE RULING UNDER WHICH
PARTICIPATION IN THE GENERAL DEBATE IS LIMITED TO
REPS OF UN MEMBER STATES, EXCEPT THAT AN OBSERVER IS
ALLOWED TO REPLY IF A MEMBER STATE'S REP SHOULD
MAKE STATEMENTS WHICH CAN REASONABLY BE REGARDED AS
JUSTIFYING A REPLY.

2. DETAILS: LEONARD CALLED ON MOJSOV 21 APRIL TO
NOTE DIFFICULTIES BEING OCCASIONED BY REQUESTS OF
SWITZERLAND AND THE HOLY SEE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
GENERAL DEBATE DURING THE UNGA SPECIAL SESSION ON
DISARMAMENT. HE NOTED OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THESE
REQUESTS ARE BEING HELD IN ABEYANCE AND WILL THEREFORE
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PAGE 02 USUN N 01585 212209Z

PROBABLY FALL TO MOJSOV TO HANDLE AS PRESIDENT
OF THE SSOD RATHER THAN FOR CHAIRMAN ORTIZ IN THE
CURRENT MEETINGS OF THE SSOD PREPCOM. MOJSOV SAID HE
HAD DISCUSSED THE BROADER QUESTION OF UN-SWISS
RELATIONS WITH THE SWISS FONMIN RECENTLY. MOJSOV
BELIEVES THAT THE SWISS GOVERNMENT IS NOW READY TO
BEGIN PREPARATIONS FOR ACTION IN THE PARLIAMENT

IN BERN TO SEEK UN MEMBERSHIP. WHILE THE GOS IS UNCERTAIN OF THE RESULTS OF THE INEVITABLE REFERENDUM, THEY ARE NOW, FOR THE FIRST TIME, WILLING TO TAKE THE POLITICAL RISK OF A REFERENDUM. MOJSOV SAID HE HAS WANTED TO BE AS HELPFUL TO SWITZERLAND AS POSSIBLE AT THIS TIME. HE HAS THEREFORE PROPOSED THAT SWITZERLAND CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF SPEAKING AT THE SSOD NOT IN THE GENERAL DEBATE IN PLENARY BUT IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE GENERAL DEBATE IN A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SSOD COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE WHICH WOULD BE CONVENED IN THE PLENARY HALL. HE WAS ALSO READY TO ASSIST IN AVOIDING OTHER PROBLEMS (I.E., REQUESTS FOR SIMILAR PARTICIPATION BY GA OBSERVERS WHO DO NOT REPRESENT STATES, E.G., PLO) BY LIMITING THIS SPECIAL TREATMENT IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO STATE REPS. HE WAS AWARE THAT EVEN THIS FORMULA MIGHT RAISE PROBLEMS OF ROK AND DPRK PARTICIPATION AND WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THIS. HE WOULD DEPART FROM THE AMERASINGHE RULING ONLY IF THERE WERE A CONSENSUS TO DO SO.

3. MOJSOV REPORTED THAT HE HAD URGED ITALIAN PERM REP VINCI, WHO HAS BEEN PRESSING PARTICIPATION BY THE HOLY SEE TO COORDINATE WITH THE EC-9 IN VIEW OF TRADITIONAL EC-9 SUPPORT FOR LIMITING PARTICIPATION IN PLENARY GENERAL DEBATE TO MEMBER STATE REPS. CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 USUN N 01585 212209Z

4. MOJSOV SAID THAT HIS DESIRE TO AVOID ANY DEPARTURE FROM THE AMERASINGHE RULING WAS A PRINCIPAL REASON WHY THE CURRENT 8TH SPECIAL SESSION ON UNIFIL FINANCING HAS NOT HAD ANY GENERAL DEBATE. HAD THERE BEEN ONE, PLO PARTICIPATION WOULD HAVE BEEN INEVITABLE. SIMILARLY, THERE WILL BE NO GENERAL DEBATE DURING THE 9TH SPECIAL SESSION ON NAMIBIA, FOR THAT WOULD CERTAINLY BRING ABOUT SWAPO PARTICIPATION IN THE GENERAL DEBATE. INSTEAD, THE ENTIRE SESSION WOULD BE BUILT AROUND THE AGENDA ITEM "QUESTION OF NAMIBIA", ON WHICH SWAPO HAS ON EARLIER OCCASIONS SPOKEN IN PLENARY.

5. COMMENT: WE WELCOME MOJSOV'S ADHERENCE TO THE AMERASINGHE RULING. YOUNG

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, DEBATES, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USUNN01585
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780171-0862
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780429/aaaaaxyl.tel
Line Count: 110
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 871d54a9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 aug 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2883100
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LIMITATION OF RIGHT OF PARTICIPATION IN THE GENERAL DEBATE IN THE UNGA TO REPRESENTATIVES OF MEMBER STATES
TAGS: PORG, SZ, VT, UNGA, (LEONARD, JAMES F)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/871d54a9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014